

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ERDA-05

CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01

PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00

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DRAFTED BY EUR/CE:JKORNBLUM:KP

APPROVED BY C: MR. SONNENFELDT

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TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN HELSINKI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 174997

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:

SUBJECT:CSCE: APPLICABILITY TO BERLIN

REF: BONN 11949 (NOTAL)

1. DEPARTMENT ENDORSES ARGUMENTS PRESENTED BY US REP
AGAINST NOTIFYING SOVIETS OF BERLIN REFERENCES IN HELSINKI
SPEECHES. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT IF SOVIETS WERE
INFORMED IN ADVANCE, THEY WOULD BE PUT IN POSITION OF
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HAVING TO REACT MORE FORMALLY TO BERLIN REFERENCES THAN IF

SUBJECT WERE NOT RAISED WITH THEM AT ALL.

2. IN PRESENTING DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS IN BONN GROUP, US REP SHOULD DRAW UPON FOLLOWING POINTS:

A.) SOVIETS ARE WELL AWARE FROM GENEVA DISCUSSIONS OF IMPORTANCE FRG AND ALLIES ATTACH TO ENSURING EXTENSION OF CSCE BENEFITS TO BERLIN. SINCE, ACCORDING TO LUECKING (PARA 3 REFTEL) MEYER-LANDRUT HAS ALREADY TOLD THEM THAT PUBLIC STATEMENTS WILL BE FORTHCOMING, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT PRESS LEAKS WILL CAUSE USSR TO EXPECT A "BERLIN SHOW" AT HELSINKI.

B.) SOVIET TURN IN SPEAKING ORDER COMES AFTER THAT OF UK AND FRANCE. BREZHNEV WILL THUS HAVE SUFFICIENT OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN ALLIED INTENTIONS BEFORE HE BEGINS TO SPEAK.

C.) IF SOVIETS NOTIFIED IN ADVANCE, THEY COULD BE TEMPTED TO SEEK TO INFLUENCE OUR REMARKS BEFOREHAND,. NEITHER LIMITING OUR COMMENTS TO GENERAL REFERENCE TO BERLIN STATEMENT OR MAKING APPROACH AT WORKING LEVEL WOULD IN OUR VIEW REMOVE THIS DANGER.

D.) FURTHER PROBLEM IS THAT ONCE GIVEN OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION OF OUR INTENTIONS, THE SOVIETS WILL PROBABLY BELIEVE THEY HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO RESPOND WITH A FIRM STATEMENT OF THEIR LEGAL POSITION. NOT DISCUSSING THE SUBJECT WITH THEM WILL AT LEAST ENABLE THEM TO CLAIM THEY KNEW NOTHING OF OUR INTENTIONS AND WERE NOT ASKED TO GIVE THEIR APPROVAL. AS US REP CORRECTLY POINTED OUT, WE HAVE BELIEVED THAT REFERENCE TO QRR MIGHT IN ANY CASE PROVOKE SOVIET RESPONSE. WE BELIEVE THIS RESPONSE CAN BE KEPT TO A MINIMUM BY NOT RAISING MATTER WITH SOVIETS IN ADVANCE.

3. AT THE SAME TIME, WE RECOGNIZE POLITICAL IMPORTANCE TO FRG OF NOT HAVING ANY UNCERTAINTY DEVELOP IN GERMAN PUBLIC OPINION ABOUT ALLIED INTENTION THAT BENEFITS OF CSCE SHOULD ALSO APPLY TO BERLIN. WE THUS WONDER IF CONFIDENTIAL

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EITHER A "NO COMMENT" OR THE TYPE OF GRUDGING REFERENCE TO BERLIN CONTAINED IN PRESS GUIDANCE SUGGESTED IN PARA 9 OF REFTEL ADEQUATELY COVERS THIS NEED. IN DEPARTMENT'S VIEW, PREFERABLE LINE WITH PRESS WOULD BE AS FOLLOWS:

A.) IF ASKED ABOUT BERLIN STORY, RESPOND THAT IT IS PREMATURE TO COMMENT ON CONTENT OF HELSINKI SPEECHES, DRAFTING OF WHICH HAS NOT BEEN COMPLETED.

B.) ADD THAT REGARDLESS OF WHAT ALLIED PARTICIPANTS
SAY IN HELSINKI, IT IS CLEAR THAT BENEFITS OF CSCE WILL
APPLY THROUGHOUT EUROPE, INCLUDING BERLIN.

C.) IF FURTHER PRESSED AS TO WHETHER THERE IS IN
FACT AN ALLIED AGREEMENT ALONG THE LINES OF THE BERLIN
STORY, REFER AGAIN TO THE FACT THAT IT IS IMPROPER TO
COMMENT ON WHAT MIGHT OR MIGHT NOT BE CONTAINED IN
SPEECHES BY HIGH OFFICIALS WHICH ARE STILL UNDER
PREPARATION. KISSINGER

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